

REMARKS

In the preceding Office action, Claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by US pat. pub. 2003/0083699 (Hamilton et al.) Claims 4 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamilton et al. in view of US pat. pub. 2002/0143366 (Herleikson), the latter being cited to show that it was known to set up and use an AED with pediatric patients. Amended Claim 1 describes an automated external defibrillator comprising a single information request input control; a state parameter indicative of the current operational state of the defibrillator; an output; and a controller which provides context-sensitive rescue information to the output in response to the actuation of the information request input control and the current operational state of the defibrillator. Amended Claim 10 is a method for operating the automated external defibrillator of Claim 1 to provide context-sensitive rescue information to the user of the automated external defibrillator, the method comprising the steps of requesting help through the single information request input control; determining the current operational state of the defibrillator by the defibrillator; and conveying through an output rescue information based on said requesting step and determining step. An embodiment of the present invention provides a simple and unambiguous way for a rescuer to obtain further information about a step of a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) rescue being performed with a defibrillator. Research has shown that SCA rescuers, particularly first responders who are often laypersons with little or no medical training or instruction on use of an AED, can become confused during the high anxiety of a rescue, particularly with AEDs which have a multitude of controls, lights and buttons. The present invention addresses this problem by providing a single information button "i", information request button 26 in the

example of Fig. 2, for additional information. The single button simplifies the controls of the AED and provides a single control for every step of the rescue that will provide additional helpful information pertinent to the current operational state of the AED and hence the current step of the rescue. There is no searching for the right control or inputting complicated request information or AED status. It is only necessary to press the single button and the AED will automatically provide helpful information most relevant to what the AED currently is doing or what the rescuer needs to do.

The Examiner has cited Hamilton et al., which shows in Figs. 1-5 several AEDs with very busy user interfaces. The top of each AED is covered with a multitude of graphics which light in succession for each new step of a rescue. While none of the illustrated embodiments show or suggest anything resembling an information button, the Examiner points out that paragraph [0063] of the Hamilton et al. application states that

"If desired, each graphic could have an associated button which, when pressed causes more detailed audio prompts related to that graphic to be output by the defibrillator.

This approach only makes the very busy user interface worse. Now there would be a multitude of buttons surrounding and associated with each of the graphics. This confusion of lights, graphics, and controls could easily overwhelm a layperson rescuer. Instead of making the AED more helpful, it would make its use even more confusing, not to mention adding to the cost and reliability problems with the AED. Instead of providing just a single information button as applicants claim, Hamilton et al. have gone in the opposite direction of the user research referenced above. They have made their AED more difficult to use, not simpler. Herleikson adds nothing on the question of information controls. Accordingly it is

respectfully submitted that amended Claims 1-20 are patentable over Hamilton et al. alone or in combination with Herleikson.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20 are patentable over Hamilton et al. and that Claims 4 and 13 are patentable over the combination of Hamilton et al. and Herleikson et al. Accordingly it is respectfully requested that the above amended claims be allowed.

In light of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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